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(54) Title: IMPROVED SYNTHESIS OF 2-SUBSTITUTED ADENOSINES

(57) Abstract: Synthesis of 2-substituted adenosines of formula (I) using 2-nitro pentabenzoyl adenosine, or 2-nitro pentaacetyl adenosine, as intermediate is described: Formula (I) wherein  $R = C_{1-6}$  alkoxy (straight or branched), a phenoxy group (unsubstituted, or mono-, or di-substituted by halo, amino,  $CF_{3-}$ , cyano, nitro,  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl, or  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy), a benzyloxy group (unsubstituted, or mono-, or di-substituted by halo, amino,  $CF_{3-}$ , cyano, nitro,  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl, or  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy), or a benzoyl group (unsubstituted, or mono-, or di-substituted by halo, amino,  $CF_{3-}$ , cyano, nitro,  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl, or  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy). The methods provide improved yield and purity of product.